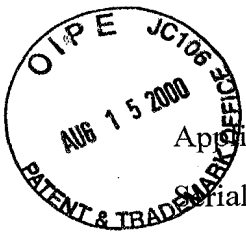


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: P. A. Billing-Medel, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/099,823

Filed: June 19, 1998

For: REAGENTS AND METHODS  
USEFUL FOR DETECTING  
DISEASES OF THE BREAST

Examiner: J. Enewold

Group Art Unit: 1655

Case No.: 6120.US.P1

Date: July 26, 2000

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR  
1.8 (a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

Date of Deposit: August 11, 2000

Wanda C. Smith  
Wanda E. Smith

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the office action dated April 18, 2000. Claims 1-16, 30, 33, 35, and 38-42 are currently under examination. A one-month extension of time accompanies this response extending the time to respond from July 18, 2000 to August 18, 2000.

AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims as follows:

B1  
1. ( Twice Amended) A method of detecting the presence of a target lipocalin-encoding polynucleotide in a test sample, comprising:

(a) contacting said test sample with at least one diagnostic polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of a polynucleotide having at least [50%] 90% identity over the entire length of [with] SEQUENCE ID NO 1, SEQUENCE ID NO 2, [or complements thereof; and a polynucleotide having at least 60% identity with] position 1-357 of SEQUENCE ID NO 4, position 1-357 of SEQUENCE ID NO 5 or complements thereof; and